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11 February 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of John Blandford on Items of Current
Intelligence Interest

1. Due to the absences from the office of Mr. John Blandford, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, today's meeting was my first with him in several weeks. I briefed him in general terms on the current situation in Laos and advised him that this is a matter that should be brought to the Chairman's attention. I also told him that we would have a more detailed reading on Laos within the next day or so. In response, Mr. Blandford told me that he is advising each of the departments and agencies that maintain liaison with the Committee he is no longer the conduit for information that must be given to the Chairman, but that it would be his recommendation that when there is material we feel should be brought to the Chairman's attention, we take it directly to him. Mr. Blandford was neither apologetic nor officious in relating this request, but was firm in his pronouncement that matters of interest to the Chairman should be taken to the Chairman.

2. I reviewed with Mr. Blandford the Agency comments on the Soviet satellite destroyer article in the New York Times, 6 February and the Agency memorandum of 4 February on [] I also briefed Mr. Blandford on the following items:

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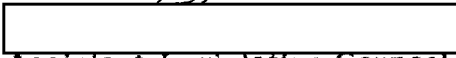
- a. ChiCom destroyer refitting and construction;
- b. Egyptian supersonic aircraft pilot strength and training;
- c. Soviet replenishing of military equipment inventory and defensive capabilities;
- d. civil disturbances in China;
- e. North Vietnamese January infiltration rate;
- f. Soviet leadership concern for Middle East policies;

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- g. SS-13 tests;
- h. Soviet helicopter carrier Moskva return to the Mediterranean;
- i. SL-12 booster;
- j. North Vietnamese surface-to-air missile locations near Laotian border;
- k. ChiCom improvement of defensive installations along Soviet-Manchurian border;
- l. Y-class submarine from northern fleet to North Atlantic patrol.

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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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